

App. No. 10/659,919
Office Action Dated February 28, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 15 and 16 are amended. Claims 1-21 are pending.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview conducted on May 17, 2006 with the undersigned. During the interview, amendments to the claims including reciting a housing, a transceiver and a receiver were discussed. No agreement was reached concerning allowable subject matter, although it was discussed that the amendments appeared to distinguish over the prior art used in the current rejections.

I. Amendments

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite a housing, a transceiver and a receiver. The amendments are supported by the specification generally including the figures and detailed description, and claims 3-4 and 10-11. Claims 3-4 and 10-11 are amended as a result of the amendments to claim 1. Claim 15 has been amended to recite that the enable request comprises information on the current geographic location of the personalization machine provided by a position receiver located in the personalization machine. Claim 16 has been amended as a result of the amendments to claim 15. No new matter has been added.

II. §112 Rejections:

Claim 1 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. The claims are definite.

III. 102(e) Rejections:

Claims 1, 2, 5-9 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Chan et al. (US Patent No. 6,588,673). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in light of the currently amended claims.

Claim 1 is directed to a system for remote personalization and issuance of identity documents that requires, among other features, a portable personalization machine having a housing that includes therein communications equipment comprising a communications

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transceiver to permit communications between the control unit and a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine, and a receiver for obtaining the current geographic location of the personalization machine.

Chan et al., however, does not disclose the features required by claim 1. Chan et al. does not disclose elements i) to vii) recited in claim 1 all within a housing of a portable personalization machine. In Chan, the personalization equipment 136, 330 is separate from what is characterized in the rejection as a control unit 132, 310. Therefore, any of the parts from elements 132, 136, 310, 330 that are considered to be equivalent to the elements recited in i) to vii) in claim 1 are not in the same housing as recited in claim 1.

In addition, Chan does not disclose a receiver for obtaining the current geographic location of the personalization machine.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Chan.

Claims 2 and 5-7 depend from claim 1 and are patentable along with claim 1 and need not be separately distinguished at this time. Applicants do not concede the propriety of the rejections to claims 2 and 5-7.

Claim 8 is directed to a portable personalization machine for use in remote personalization and issuance of identity documents that requires, among other features, a machine housing that includes integrated therein communications equipment comprising a communications transceiver to permit communications between the control unit and a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine, and a receiver for obtaining the current geographic location of the personalization machine.

Chan et al., however, does not disclose the features required by claim 8. Chan et al. does not disclose the elements recited in claim 8 all within the same housing of a portable personalization machine. In addition, Chan does not disclose a receiver for obtaining the current geographic location of the personalization machine.

Claims 9 and 12-14 depend from claim 8 and are patentable along with claim 8 and need not be separately distinguished at this time. Applicants do not concede the propriety of the rejections to claims 9 and 12-14.

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IV. 103(a) Rejections:

Claims 3, 4, 10, 11 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al. in view of Bade et al. (US Patent No. 6,778,837).

In addition, claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al. and Bade et al. (US Patent No. 6,778,837), and further in view of Tushie et al (U.S. 6,014,748).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in light of the currently amended claims.

Claim 15 recites a method of controlling a portable personalization machine including sending an enable request from the personalization machine to a controlling authority located remote from the personalization machine, wherein the enable request comprises information on the current geographic location of the personalization machine provided by a position receiver located in the personalization machine.

Chan does not disclose, among other features, an enable request that comprises information on the current geographic location of the personalization machine provided by a position receiver located in the personalization machine.

Bade is characterized as disclosing a mobile device where access to the mobile device is based on positional data. However, Bade does not send an enable request from the mobile device, where the enable request comprises information on the current geographic location of the mobile device. Bade discloses the use of an authentication module (214) within mobile device (104) that is configured to access and process positional data that is received by a receiver module 212. A receiver collector (216) and a positional authenticator (218), which form the authentication module (214), control and authenticate access rights to the mobile device (104) (see column 3, lines 46-64). Thus, access to the mobile device is controlled internally to the mobile device. Nowhere does Bade teach or suggest sending an enable request from the mobile device to a controlling authority remote from the mobile device, where the enable request comprises information on the current geographic location of the personalization machine. For at least these reasons, claim 15 is patentable over Chan and Bade.

Claims 16-21 depend from claim 15 and are patentable along with claim 15 and need not be separately distinguished at this time. Applicants do not concede the propriety of the rejections to claims 16-21. Claim 3 should be considered allowable for at least the same reasons as claim

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1, from which it depends. Claims 10 should be considered allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 8, from which it depends. Applicant is not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims. Favorable reconsideration of claims 3, 10, and 15-21 is requested.

V. Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are allowable, and respectfully request favorable consideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If any further questions arise, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number listed below.


Respectfully submitted,



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